

Message Text

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PAGE 01 ASUNCI 03595 272034Z

11
ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 ISO-00 IO-13 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 /073 W
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R 272005Z AUG 76
FM AMEMBASSY ASUNCION
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8164

C O N F I D E N T I A L ASUNCION 3595

EO 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR PA
SUBJ: REACTIONS TO PANMUNJOM INCIDENT

REF: STATE 211862

PARAGUAYAN GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS AND MEDIA HAVE IN GENERAL REFRAINED FROM COMMENT ON THE PANMUNJOM INCIDENT, ALTHOUGH WIRE SERVICE REPORTING OF THE EPISODE WAS GIVEN AMPLE COVERAGE IN THE LOCAL PRESS. BECAUSE OF PARAGUAY'S STRONG AITI-COMMUNIST ORIENTATION AND CLOSE FRIENDSHIP WITH THE ROK, THERE IS NO POSSIBILITY THE GOP WOULD ACCEPT NORTH KOREA'S VERSION OF THIS INCIDENT. THE LACK OF COMMENT IS PROBABLY DUE TO A GENERAL DISINTEREST IN FAR OFF EVENTS AND TO THE FACT THAT PARAGUAYAN OFFICIALS HAVE SUCH A BAD OPINION OF COMMUNISTS THAT AN INCIDENT SUCH AS PANMUNJOM WOULD NOT STRIKE THEM AS ABNORMAL. PARAGUAY HAS AGAIN CO-SPONSORED THE FRIENDLY RESOLUTION ON KOREA AT UNGA, SO INCIDENT WOULD NOT BE RELEVANT IN THIS REGARD EXCEPT TO RE-INFORCE CONVICTIONS THAT ARE ALREADY STRONGLY HELD.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: DMZ, GOVERNMENT REACTIONS, DEATHS, INTERNATIONAL PEACEKEEPING FORCES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 27 AUG 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: GolinoFR
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976ASUNCI03595
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760328-0745
From: ASUNCION
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760814/aaaaalto.tel
Line Count: 48
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EB
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 1
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 76 STATE 211862
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: GolinoFR
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 20 JUL 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <20 JUL 2004 by ShawDG>; APPROVED <21 JUL 2004 by GolinoFR>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: REACTIONS TO PANMUNJOM INCIDENT
TAGS: PFOR, PA, US, KS, KN
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006